



DEPARTMENT of CONSUMER AFFAIRS

2001 LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

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The Consumer Affairs Act of 1970, which is the governing law for the Department of Consumer Affairs, requires the Department to represent the interests of California consumers before the State Legislature.

This Legislative Digest summarizes legislation that the Department reviewed on behalf of California consumers during the 2001 legislative year.

We hope that it serves as a useful resource for identifying legislation of interest.

We look forward to working with you on behalf of California consumers in the second half of the 2001-2002 legislative session.

Yours truly,

Kathleen Hamilton, Director
Department of Consumer Affairs

Foreword

The Department of Consumer Affairs' (DCA) 2001 Legislative Digest is a summary of significant consumer protection legislation introduced during the first year of the 2001-2002 legislative session.

We have organized the Digest by subject category, bill number, and chapter number. The three major subject categories are **Consumer Protection**, **Professional and Business Regulation**, and **DCA Administration**. Each category contains numerous subcategories. Some bills may be referenced in more than one category or subcategory.

Since 2001 is the first year of the biennial 2001-2002 session, several of the 2001 bills are still before the Legislature and are known as two-year bills. Bills that failed or were withdrawn by their authors are included for information purposes only. Also, many two-year bills are placeholder or "spot" bills that may be substantially amended in the second year of the 2001-2002 session. Unless otherwise indicated, enacted bills become effective on January 1, 2002. For brevity, most entries are cross-referenced wherever appropriate.

Part I is the **Table of Bills**, which lists each bill alphabetically by subject heading within each subcategory. The subject heading refers you to the bill number, indicates the disposition of the bill, and where the summary appears.

Part II contains the **Bill Summaries**, which is organized numerically by bill number under each subcategory. This part provides a brief summary of each bill, the bill's author, and its disposition. Unlike past years, we are now listing omnibus bills under each affected program. AB and SB indicate Assembly and Senate bills, respectively.

Part III is the **Appendix**, which contains a Bill Number Index, a Chaptered Bill Index, a Department of Consumer Affairs Directory, and an overview of the Legislative Process.

All department and agency references are for California entities, unless noted otherwise.

While we have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information in this digest, please refer to the California codes for exact statutory citations.

For further information on bills, relevant code sections, the Governor's veto messages, or bill authors, you can consult www.leginfo.ca.gov or your local legislator. For additional copies of the digest, please consult www.dca.ca.gov or contact the Department's Division of Legislative and Regulatory Review.